

BOROUGH OF WELSHPOOL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1943.

To the Sanitary Authority of the Borough of Welshpool.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

This report is drawn up as directed by the Welsh Board of Health in Circ. 10/44 (Wales).

On grounds of national security no figures of population are given in this report.

BIRTHS.—Live births: Male, 50; Female, 40; total, 90. Of this total 6 were illegitimate.

BIRTH RATE.—16.03 per 1,000, slight increase on 1942, 16.5 being the figure given for England and Wales generally for 1943.

DEATHS.—All causes: Male, 47; Female, 42; total, 89.

DEATH RATE.—15.8 per 1,000.

Four deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year.

Seven deaths from Influenza.

Sixteen deaths from Cancer.

Eleven from Cerebral Hæmorrhage.

Seventeen from Heart Disease.

No deaths of infants under two years of age from Diarrhoea.

No deaths from Puerperal causes.

Infants under one year, only one death registered, this appears to be the lowest rate yet recorded.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In 1943 the following cases were notified:—

Scarlet Fever.—5.

Whooping Cough.—16.

Diphtheria.—1.

Erysipelas.—1.

Measles.—91.

Pneumonia.—5.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—1.

No Typhoid or Paratyphoid.

In the 91 cases of Measles, no deaths were recorded.

Scarlet fever tends to become a much milder disease than formerly.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified during 1943:—

Pulmonary.—7.

Cervical Glands.—3.

Tubercular Peritonitis.—1.

Tubercular Epididymitis.—1.

Lupus (face).—1.

Tuberculous Meningitis.—1. Total 14.

Four cases of Phthisis and one case of Tuberculous Meningitis died.

Notification of Tuberculosis is quite satisfactory in the area.

A tribute should be paid to the Tuberculosis Physician, Dr. Jackson, who attends at the Hospital Clinic twice monthly, for his invaluable help and skill in the diagnosis of early cases, especially one may mention the numerous chest radiographs taken enabling an early diagnosis to be made.

WATER.

Rainfall figures for the year were as follows:—

January	4.22in.	July	1.37in.
February	2.01in.	August	2.73in.
March	.72in.	September	2.41in.
April	1.30in.	October	3.24in.
May	3.77in.	November	2.81in.
June	2.19in.	December	1.80in.
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			Total 28.57in.
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The lowest reading of water entering the reservoirs was taken on August 24th, when the gauge registered 65,975 gallons per day.

The minimum gaugings of St. Garmon's Spring were as follows:—August, 37,756; October, 29,963. At the end of the dry period, the lower pool was 3 feet 0 inches below top water level, the second and third pools were full.

There was an ample supply throughout the year.

The minimum waste line registered on night inspection was 1,300 gallons per hour.

The average consumption is 100,000 gallons per day.

Nine samples of the town supply were taken and all were satisfactory.

Twenty-two samples of the water from St. Garmon's Spring were taken; of these 16 were satisfactory and 6 unsatisfactory.

Weekly gaugings and 15 samples of water at Trinity Well, Welsh Harp, have also been taken.

Springs at the Gelli, Brunant Buttington and Trinity Well, Trewern, were kept under observation; twenty-two gaugings and samples of the three springs were taken.

During the year 68 Samples were submitted to the Medical Research Councils Laboratories for analyses.

During the year the water mains were extended to supply the Moors and Gungrog Dairy Farms.

GUILDSFIELD SUPPLY.

The eight analyses of this water have been satisfactory. Weekly visits are made to inspect the drip chlorinator. At the end of the dry period the quantity of water in the tank was 135,000 gallons, the capacity

of the tank being 150,000 gallons. The lowest supply to the tank was 1,371 gallons per day. This was recorded on the 17th August. On July 3rd the consumption of the villages (excepting Garth Hall) was 2,099 gallons per day, on the same day the consumption at Garth was 528 gallons per day.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no extensions, the usual cleaning and

flushing of sections of the sewers was carried out and there was no flooding of the system in the built-up area.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action was found necessary.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No change.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The provisions of the Shops Acts have been complied with. No court proceedings took place.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action.

SWIMMING BATHS.

No action.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools in the Borough have been inspected periodically.

MILK.

At the end of the year there were 19 retail producers, and 67 wholesale producers, on the Registers kept under the Milk and Dairies Order.

Ten applications were received for registration under this order and eight producers were registered.

At the end of the year, 22 producers in the Borough held accredited licences as compared with 23 in the previous year, and there were 9 producers holding T.T. Licences.

Fortnightly sampling of milk from the producer-retailers has been carried out.

In all 144 samples were taken and the results were 114 A's, 21 B's, 9 C's.

On the 30th July the registration of Little Henfaes Dairy, occupied by Miss J. E. Ellis, was cancelled.

TINNED FOODSTUFF.

There has been a large increase in the consumption of tinned food. 84 small tins of food have been condemned as unfit for human consumption.

MEAT.

The arrangements for the meat supply continue to work satisfactorily. During the year it was found necessary to condemn 68 lbs. of meat.

HOUSING.

A great deal of preliminary work was done during the year in conjunction with Post-War proposals.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. CRUMP.

August, 1944.

